

St Edmund's Hall, Hoxne

Safeguarding policy

The hall has adopted the following safeguarding strategy for all users of the hall. We reaffirm that the trust is against all forms of abuse and expects all those involved with its activities to comply with its policy.

The trustees take reasonable steps to protect the charity's beneficiaries, staff, volunteers and those connected with activities of the charity from harm. In so doing they have adopted the following approach.

The operations of the charity does not ordinarily bring it into contact with children and vulnerable adults. However, it is recognised that its operations may from time to time bring it into incidental contact with such people. We will ensure safeguarding for these situations is interpreted using the specific meanings:

- protecting the rights of vulnerable adults to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect
- protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

At the present time the trustees believe the risk of abuse is low.

Awareness and prevention

We will publish our strategy on our website. We will ensure all current and future trustees and staff are made aware of the strategy. We will make all users aware that the strategy exists and we expect them to report any breaches.

Should circumstances change such that it becomes more likely any individual will or has come into contact with children and vulnerable adults, other than on rare occasions, it will be the policy to carry out a DBS check and furthermore the trustees reserve the possibility of doing so at their discretion in any circumstance.

Oversight and supervision

The policy will be reviewed annually or more frequently by the Management Committee.

Reporting

All incidents that may involve abuse must be reported to the Trustees. Ordinarily the report should be to the Chair but if that is inappropriate it may be reported to any other trustee. The Management Committee takes its responsibilities in this area very seriously and in appropriate cases will report matters to the appropriate authority. In cases of doubt the Committee is likely to consult the charity commission prior to closing any issue.

We will convey that internal reporting is not an alternative to taking immediate action which may extend to contacting the police or in an emergency, which would include a situation where a child is in immediate danger, dialling 999. Users will be told to consider contacting the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Team 0808 800 4005 if there is need for immediate help or the MASH Help Line 0345 606 1499 for advice and guidance.

Adopted by the Management Committee on 23 August 2018

Signed (Chair).....